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akin to "leather breeches," would be hard to discover-was a cunning old negro who boasted that he owned a musket "dat went troo de ole resolution war, en 'll shoot er man dead er mile off." He had been a slave, and his otherwise benevolent face bore the impress of the dissimulation and duplicity that the old environments had imposed upon him and that his newer occupations required him to keep up, for he was a fortune-teller of the first water, to whom fine town ladies in silks and satins paid willing tribute. He sweetened up his work with wonderful stories and cunningly applied flatteries, in the use of which he far excelled the Gipsies. Besides this he was one of the best of the oldfashioned fiddlers, and could evoke such rhapsodies from his ancient violin as set heels and toes to tingling for the motion of reel, jig or cotillion, and made him a great favorite at country dances. Though few of his clients owned up to any degree of belief in his stories, yet they exerted sufficient influence in strengthening the popular faith in his mystic powers as a voodoo to bring him many a "levy" and quarter.

## MOVEMENT TO ERECT A MONUMENT TO GOVERNOR BIGGER.

THE following resolution, passed by the City Council of Fort Wayne early in February, 1908, largely through the initiative and influence of Mr. J. M. Henry, will be of general interest:

"In what was formerly known as the Broadway Cemetery, now known as the McCulloch Park, in the city of Fort Wayne, there lie the remains of Samuel Bigger, ex-Governor of the State of Indiana, who served in that official capacity from 1840 to 1843 with credit to himself and honor to the State, after having served for many years as the sole representative of the State of Indiana in the House of Representatives of the United States, from

which office he resigned to accept that of Governor of the State.\* It may truly be said that he saved the honor of the State in his refusal to consent to the repudiation of the then State debt, and it is no less true that to his refusal was probably due a subsequent payment by the State of the debt, which at that time others thought should have been repudiated. Never since that time has the State been on the verge of repudiating its debt. It is certainly an honor to the city of Fort Wayne that it can claim the residence, in part, of a governor of such immense value to the State of Indiana, and the resting place of his body. This city never had the honor of claiming the residence or burial place of any other governor of the State. Some years ago the exact spot where lie the remains of Governor Bigger was discovered by the finding of an unmarked slab, which was known at that time to be the spot where Governor Bigger had been interred. The slab, which had been previous to that time neglected by the lack of any decoration or distinguishing mark to show, on the part of the city, its appreciation of the honor of having this city the residence and burial place of such a distinguished governor, was removed. The memorable spot can still be located by those who know its location, and it would be a sad loss to the city of Fort Wayne if, from the failure of the city to appropriately mark the spot, future generations would be unable to locate the same. The spot which has so far been thus neglected should be by the city befittingly marked by the erection of a suitable monument or other designation of respect and honor; now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, by the Common Council of the city of Fort Wayne, That it is the desire of the council that a suitable monument be erected on the grave of Governor Samuel Bigger, that his name be perpetuated for future ages."

<sup>\*</sup>Mr. Bigger served in the Indiana Legislature 1834 and 1835; from 1835 till his nomination for governor he was judge of his judicial circuit. After his term as governor he practiced law in Fort Wayne, where he died in 1845.—Woollen-Biographical and Historical Sketches.